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BULLETIN

OF THE

Medical Library Association

QUARTERLY

MEDIAEVAL LIBRARIES OF MEDICINE.

500 A. D. TO 1500 A. D.

By Edward Clark Streeter, M. D.
Boston, Mass.

One must trek back through the dust of the Dark Ages a very great distance to discover the first medical book-list. We may regard the catalogue of titles given by Cassiodorus (ca. A. D. 535) as one of the earliest extant. The list of Latin versions of Greek medical authors, Hippocrates, Galen, Dioscorides and Celsus as recommended by the great monk, who had been earlier the Chancellor of Theodoric, indirectly served to guide Salernitan medicine along the firm lines of Greek accomplishment. It is a pity that we cannot reconstruct the medical portions of the libraries of Southern Italy particularly those of Basilian monasteries, for the seventh, eighth and ninth centuries; in order to get more light on Salerno for example; that we do not know the contents of the 12 great painted book-presses of Isidor of Seville; what texts were used in the public readings of Hippocrates and Galen at Ravenna in the half-fabulous eighth century; what medicine was taught at Monte Cassino, Bobbio, St. Gall and Chartres and the Cathedral schools of Milan, Lucca, Pavia. The manifolding of texts, the teaching from texts went on, of this we are sure. And although there is a great gap in the story of the diffusion of scientific knowledge, it is dangerous to argue ex silentio. As a matter of fact the librarians of the ninth century already have stirred from their sleep, have opened their book-presses and Armaria and begun to take note of titles. They jot down their items on the final-gatherings of some incomplete manuscript, on any foldings of sheep skin they may happen to have. Their ignorance or innocence in regard to the science of librarianship is touching. They get tired very soon—and they say so. "I am tired and so finish, God be praised," says one; "space is lacking," says another, as he lays down the pen. "His be the praise in aeternum." The early cataloguers invariably slight the *secular*, never the *Patristic*, portions of their libraries, indeed they more than slight, they slash, censor, mutilate and falsify the items at the "profane" end of their lists. Medicine coming at the bottom of the heap as it does, suffers most. A typical Monastic catalogue begins with the works of Augustine, Benedict, Basil, Jerome, Hilarius, next come the permitted classics, followed by legal codes, Monastic rules, grammars, lexicons, arithmetical treatises, natural histories, bestiaries, travels and finally medicine; lowest in the inventory, in nameless confusion or omitted altogether. The enumeration stops short just where we would have it full and explicit, stops with a curt "preter hos enumerare nolui (more than these items I refuse to enumerate), or with the exasperated snort "Ten more on profane science, of whose titles I am blessedly ignorant."

How ill-advised it would be, then, to conclude that no more works of science and of secular authors were possessed by the

monasteries and conventual libraries, than appear among the titles in these trunkated catalogues. The lists are remarkable for what they do *not contain*, that might yet be confidently looked for in them. Take the case of Fulda under the abbotship of Rhabanus Maurus (822-42). Like another Alcuin, Maurus toiled for the advancement of Science. He so largely added to the collections of the second Abbot, Baugolf, "a lover of Science" like himself, that the monastery soon possessed "Maximus certe in Germania Thesaurus." In an epigram to the priest Gerhoh, keeper of the library, Maurus says that "the accumulated wisdom of the world was in his charge." Of such vast extent, adds the Chronicle (Acta vetusta abbatum Fuldensium) that cataloguing was scarcely attempted. Angelo Mai discovered a fragmentary list of Fulda's treasures which you will find in "Serapeum" (Bd. 20, p. 277). It is woefully incomplete. Here at the very fountain-head of secular studies in Germany, where best could be traced the process of transmission of antique science to the middle ages, all is "dunkel und streitig." You will find the same meagreness of detail, same radical omissions, in the lists of Bamberg, Hirschau, Corvey, Cologne, Augsburg, Salzburg, Regensburg and scores of towns where "outer" schools were maintained, and where crude medicine was taught. If you took occasion to examine the inventories of all the mediaeval German libraries of the 9th to the 12th centuries, chronologically, as given in G. Becker's "Catalogi" and in the files of various learned societies publications, the result of your search would be, that only at one spot, namely, at the Abbey of Reichenau on Lake Constance, would you be rewarded by running down a 9th cent. dated catalogue containing a dozen codices, together, in a purely medical section of a catalogue, properly headed, "De libris Medicinae Artis." All but four of these items are identifiable. At Regensburg in the 10th cent. there were ten books "on the medicinal arts"—the entire lot nameless—besides a "Hortulus" of Walafridus Strabus and a treatise "on man and his parts" (Liber de homine et partibus eius). To judge from these lists there were only 55 medical Mss. in the hands of the higher clergy in Germany from the 9th to the 12th Centuries. The inference is absurd. However, the positive data given in the lists is of highest value. Witness the appearance in the Reichenau list of that most astonishing item, the now lost work of Vindicianus, "de expertis," in three books. This work of the fourth Cent. was probably of capital importance to the compilers of the Pseudo-Plinius and the Pseudo-Apulius. As these compilations form part of the essential apparatus of monkish medicine, the loss of such a source as Vindician is disastrous. Some of the authorities on whom Celsus drew, (Euelpides the Dogmatist, a famous Opthalmologist) were in Reichenau a thousand years ago, but are now lost codices. Here and there through these lists, a pale moons-ray of light is thrown upon the course of medicine. We find in the early 12th Century, at the monastery of St. Peter at Salzburg that "these are the books of the scholars of this

church, namely, the Experimenta of Hippocrates and Galen's treatises." Greek or near-Greek science persisted at Salzburg as at Chartres, at the very time when Salerno, the famous "Civitas Hippocratica," succumbed to Arabian influences.

A critical survey of the medical manuels used by the Benedictines and later religious Orders during these ages would yield, no doubt, abundant usable stuff, and furnish some surprises.

Bishop Bruno's bequest of medical codices to the cathedral library at Hildesheim in 1161, opens a new field for this sort of investigation. (See Neuburger, "Gesch. der Med." ii, 321-322.) Like bequests of much earlier date are apt to elude our pains, for no exact descriptions were given as a rule. For example, Grimaldus, Prince of Salerno, (841-72) gave the Coenobium of St. Gallen "libri 111 medicinalis artis in quaternionibus" (Serepeum, Bd. 2, p. 8-22). Hardly a man is now alive who can identify these "libri 111" from Salernum.

The two books which you will find most helpful in this connection are G. Becker's "Catalogi" and Theodor Gottlieb's "Mediaeval Libraries." Their references are rich and suggestive. If you follow where they lead, you will soon be roaming over the whole range of Mediaeval culture, exploring each autonymous abbey in turn, throughout the entire loose confederation. On the whole, a vast deal of work has been accomplished by German, French and Italian bibliographers, along the lines of a more intensive study of ancient cloistral book-lists. The true scope and intent of this curious research, it would be difficult indeed to indicate without giving you an over-load of references of quite unmanageable proportions. One indication will be necessary, however. Whenever these illuminating old lists carry a goodly quantity of medical material one may be fairly sure that Prof. Sudhoff has marked them for review and analysis. The Leipzig Institute for the History of Medicine has raised the recension of these embrangled book-lists to the level of a high explicative art. A typical dissertation of this order is Leon Rosenblum's "Die medizinische Abteilung des Katalogs der Klosterbibliothek Alt-Zelle," Leipzig, 1918. (This list contains 107 medical volumes; 45 of these are now in the Univ. Lib. Leipzig.)

With the rise of the Universities our interest naturally turns from the cloistral schools, "Schools for the service of God," to the centers of secular learning. What texts were expounded in the earliest medical Faculties, and what apparatus was in the hands of the leading transmitters and educators? The truth is that we have little exact data covering the early period of University history, i. e., before the middle 13th Century. We must here use the long arm of conjecture, for the oldest extant medical Statutes, those of Salerno, Naples and Paris, date only from 1270 to 1280. From that period forward the Statutes furnish us with the lists of prescribed texts in use. The value of the list given by Neckam, as in use in Paris at the close of the 12th Century, (fully a hundred years prior

to the first Statuti) is readily seen. Professor Haskins published this list in the "Harvard Studies in Classical Philology" in 1909. The list, in its medical portion, includes the so-called "Articella" (numbering several distinct treatises such as the "Isagoge in artem parvem Galeni," the "Aphorisms and Prognostics" of Hippocrates, "The Tegni" of Galen and the "Pantegni" of Haly Abbas, etc.) the general and particular Dietaries of Isaac Judaeus, his work on urines, the "Viaticum" of Constantine Africanus, "de urinarium" of Theophilus and "de pulsibus" by Philaretus, Dioscorides and Macer, and finally the works of Alexander of Tralles.

The last three items in Neckam's list are not found in the Statutes describing courses of study in the following century. Sudhoff, in 1911, published an important inventory of a XIIIth Century medical library and followed this with other finds, in the same field. (See "Archiv fur die Gesch. der Med." 1911-12.) Of this same period, just subsequent to 1270, is the medical portion of the library of John of London (a supposed protégé of Roger Bacon) whose 25 medical books were bequeathed to the Abbey of St. Augustine. These items are described by James, in his "Ancient libraries of Canterbury and Dover" (pp. 332-349). Legacies and wills of physicians now begin to furnish us with partial inventories of their libraries. The great Bolognese teacher Thaddeus of Florence, who died in 1303, willed a depleted library of 11 books to his chief pupil; 4 volumes of Avicenna, 4 of Galen, Avicenna's "Metaphysics," the "Ethics" of Aristotle and Sextus "de naturalibus Aristotelis." Of course we know that the master possessed Burgundio's rendering of the Aphorisms of Hippocrates for he carefully compared it with the translation made by "that accursed monk Dan Constantyn." Apparently Thaddeus had unloaded most of his books before he died at the age of 80. In 1326 an important library of a Venetian physician was sold at auction, the priced catalogue of which was published in Cecchetti's "Per la Storia della medicina in Venezia' (Spigolature de'Archivio, Venezio, 1886) The library of a physician of the Marches, Maestro Ugolino di Nuzio di San Vittoria, of the 14th Century, was well described by A. Corradi (Annal. Univ. di med. Milano, 1885, vol. 272).

Immediately on the rounding of the century, in 1401, we have report of a most interesting library devoted to medicine, physics and mechanics. The owner, Benedict Greco of Salerno, was Rector of the University of Padua in 1399. The list of his 40 immortal manuscripts (including a copy of Dante) is given in Andrea Gloria, (Monumenti della Universita di Padova, t. ix, p. 1336). The library of a well-read Canon regular of Paris, Pierre Cardonnel, who died in December 1438, has been so frequently commented on that it need not detain us. (See Ch. Daremberg, "Histoires des Sciences Medicales," T. 1, p. 317, note. A Chereau "La Bibliotheque d'un medecin au commencement du XV e Siecle" Paris, 1864.) We note in passing that apothecaries often had collections which vied with, or surpassed, those in the hands of medical men. Witness the long

testamentary list of books owned by Amyot Salmonner, otherwise known as Blaise of Dijon, who died in 1402 (vid. Daremberg, op. cit. p. 318, note). Paul Dorveaux brought to light another list dating from 1482, "inventaire après décès" of an apothecary likewise of Dijon.*

Among the Quattrocentisti filling the chairs of medicine in Northern Italy perhaps none had a more enviable position as teacher than Antonio Cermisone at Padua. A mind of a high order, a scholar without the encrustations of pedantry; he once said to Michele Savonarola (who, by the way, always addressed him as "father") that a false gloss on a text caused him "magna ignominia"; that, if after tasting the wine of seventy sharp years and practicing his art for fifty, he still lacked judgment, he must indeed be a duffer. This man, who as much as anyone, gave new form and substance to medical teaching for the next hundred years, left a grand library, inventoried in 1441—sixty-three titles in all. (See Gennari Cod. Diplom., t. vii, p. 518. Gloria, op. cit.)

Next comes the library of a certain Ugolino da Montecatani, who died in 1428 or 29, a Florentine erudite who could not take his 113 manuscript treasures to heaven with him, nor his picture of the Madonna, nor his study table, nor his rush chair with an easy back moulded to his form, nor his two wash-basins, two candlesticks and wondrous glazed windows two in number. Of the 113 items all but 25, as I recall, are purely medical; these are given expert revision by Karl Sudhoff and Walter Bombe in Arch. f. Gesch. d. Med., Vol. 5, 1911-12.

With the advent of printing books values fell fifty per cent. or more almost immediately, so that a text that had cost 8 ducats could be had at the stall of a bibliopole for less than four.

Doctors not only bought books more freely now, but made essay to print them at times. Phillip de Lignamine in Rome, a venturesome physician of means, who learned the art of printing from Ulric Han, produced forty books in the space of a few years. Ferrari da Grado, a prominent professor of medicine at Pavia, in like manner apparently set up a press in his own house on which he printed his textual commentary on the ninth book of the Almansoris of Rhasis, October 1471—the first press and the first printed work done in Pavia. What is more to our point, Ferrari da Grado, or Mathew de Gradibus as he was better known, left a library of 89 titles. (This master collection is given in Siro Comi, "Bibliographical memoir of the history of typography at Pavia in the 15th Century," Pavia 1807, and in more detail in Dr. Henri-Maxime Ferrari's "Une Chaire de Medicine au XVe Siecle," Paris 1899.)

In 1494 the old Rector of the studium of Aix bequeathed his 27 books (among them some medical) to the church of St. Sauveur in that university town, (as we read in Belin's "Histoire de l'ancienne Université d'Aix".)

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* Paul Dorveaux "Inventaire de la Bibliotheque d'un apothecaire de Dijon en 1482." Paris, 1898.

The only library of a physician that ever figured, even for a moment, in the diplomacy of nations, as far as I am aware, was that of the Parmese surgeon Theodosius who was in the pay of Charles VIII of France. "Maistre Theodoze" in 1495 on the battle-field of Fornovo lost his travelling library of medicine[1]—whether manuscripts or printed works we do not know. At any rate they were of high value to him and he besought King Charles to recover them. So Charles wrote, from Lyons, on December 7th, 1495, a sharp note to Il Moro (Ludovico Sforza) as follows: "I have learned that my Physician Master Theodosius on the day of the battle of Fornovo lost sundry books of medicine which were taken from him by some of your people" . . . and he charged the Duke of Milan with the prompt return of these precious tomes.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PEDIATRICS.

By John Ruhräh, M. D.
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The bibliography of pediatrics may be divided into three sections. The first about which we know so little deals with the pediatric contributions of the ancient authorities. Except the short work of Soranus of Ephesus, written in the second century, A. D., the remainder consists of articles or aphorisms scattered through the writings on medicine in general, such as, for example, the well known pediatric aphorisms of Hippocrates; the description of tetanus in children given by Aretaeus; on the eruptions which happened to children, by Paulus Æginetus; a description of smallpox in children, by Rhazes, and the like. With the advent of printing came a great increase in the number of books and among these were a certain number devoted to the diseases of children. These have been, for the most part, listed by Meissner, in his well known Grundlage which contains the various pediatric writings in chronological order up to 1850, and which we all find invaluable in considering the pediatric literature of this period.

There are three pediatric incunabula, one by Bagellardo, printed in 1472; one by Metlinger, printed in 1474; and one by Roelants, printed about 1483 or 4. Bagellardo is better known through the volume of Peter Toletus, who reprinted the work of the master in 1583 with certain notes and additions. Roelants remained a sealed book until it was unearthed by Sudhoff, who translated part of it into modern German. The work, however, was appropriated by Sebastianus Austrius, who translated from what he designated the kitchen Latin of the author into something more satisfactory. This was published at Basle in 1540.

The sixteenth century saw a very considerable number of pediatric writings. The first English book on pediatrics was that of Thomas Phaer, originally published in 1544. This was printed

[1] See Eugene Muntz. "La Renaissance en Italie et en France a l'epopee de Chas. VIII". p. 514.

along with his translation from the French of the Regimen Sanitates Salerni, which Phaer entitled the Regiment of Lyfe; and also a treatise on the Plague. Phaer was a lawyer as well as a physician and also has the honor of being the first man to translate the Aenid of Virgil into English. This book of Phaer's went through many editions and there are several copies in the Library of the Surgeon General, as fine old black letters as one wants to see.

In former days it was a fashion to write poems on medical subjects, and there are quite a number of poems relating to pediatrics. One of the earliest is by Tansillo, composed in the sixteenth century. This is entitled La Balia, or The Nurse. A manuscript copy was found in 1767, about two centuries after the death of the author, and this has been published with copious notes and subsequently was translated into English by William Roscoe and printed in English and reprinted in New York in 1800. Tansillo was regarded as one of the brightest of the Italian wits, and Roscoe, in his comment on La Balia, states that "the subject is in a high degree interesting and is treated in a manner peculiarly pointed and direct, yet without violating that decorum which is due the public at large and, in particular, the sex to whom it is addressed."

A second poem of great interest is by Claude Quillet. Those familiar with French history will remember that Quillet argued in his capacity of physician at the time of Urbain Grandier, well known to the students of demonology. His poem is entitled Callipaediae, or the Way to Have Handsome Children, as the translator of the English edition puts it. This poem went through many editions and the English translation is inscribed to Dr. Garth.

Perhaps the best known of pediatric poems is by Sainte Marthe. He came of a family of literary ability and was highly esteemed by his contemporaries. One of his sons was afflicted with some serious malady and the most clever physicians employed to help it. Their efforts were useless so Sainte Marthe undertook to cure it himself, and made researches into the application of everything pertaining to infancy. As the child lived, Sainte-Marthe was begged to preserve for posterity his researches and in order to do this he composed a poem in Latin entitled Paedotrophiae.

There are one or two other poems dealing partly with pediatrics, but not of as great interest as the ones mentioned.

One of the most delightful of the pediatric writings is by the all but forgotten William Cadogan. Cadogan was a picturesque character; his essay on Gout started a great discussion in London and led to the publishing of one of the most delightful poems entitled The Doctor Dissected, or Willie Cadogan in the Kitchen. This poem is really a very good review of Cadogan's essay. His contribution to pediatrics is entitled An Essay on the Nursing and Management of Children, London, 1750, and it went through nine editions in twenty years and was one of the early works of infant welfare, and much that it contains could be published in tracts today without changing a word.

Another pediatric volume of very considerable interest is by Rosen von Rosenstein, a Swedish physician, a professor at Upsala and later at Stockholm. This was translated into English and published in 1766 and while it covers not all of the subject gives rather extensive accounts of the diseases that he considers at all.

A somewhat neglected classic is the contribution of Robert Whytt to tuberculosis meningitis, or, as he called to, to Dropsy in the Brain. Whytt was a professor of medicine in the University of Edinburgh and an investigator in physiology, especially that of the nervous system, but his contributions are all but forgotten and he has practically disappeared from the encyclopedias and biographies. His contribution on The Dropsy in the Brain is remarkable from the standpoint that it was made from a study of some twenty-odd cases, and includes practically everything we know about the disease today, except such things as have been added by methods which were not at his disposal. It could readily serve as a model for scientific contributions.

The first English book on children in the style of our modern text books was by Michael Underwood, an obstetrician, in his day more famed as having delivered Princess Charlotte than as a medical writer. His books give the first undisputed account of poliomyelitis and was the accepted text for sixty-two years, a long time for a book to last. It supplanted the little work of Walter Harris, which lasted nearly a hundred years.

Piety is not ordinarily an attribute of physicians, but William Heberden, with his son William the Younger, were exceptions. Of the father it was said that "he was pious without hypocrisy, virtuous without austerity, and beneficent with ostentation." His commentaries you are all familiar with. His little Epitome on the diseases of children you probably know little or nothing about. It was evidently published by the son, but the material must have been collected by the father and is found in the Commentaries. It is a very rare book; there is no other volume of the same number of words which is as readable or contains as many facts dealing with the subject.

Felix Würtz, a contemporary of Ambrose Paré, a surgeon of unquestioned ability and the author of a book on womb surgery, practiced at Basle. He was an intimate of Paracelsus and may derived some of his mannerisms from that bombastic old soul.

In many ways Würtz is quite modern. He believed that "a surgeon should know the structure of the skeleton, the muscles and the chief nerves and vessels, so that when he looks at a wound he may at once recognize what organs are wounded and not need to rake and poke with a probe."

The little book on children is a delight, very readable, containing a great deal of very sound sense and is the first contribution after Hippocrates to deal with infantile orthopedics.

An almost unknown book, of which one copy at least exists in this country, is De Morbis Puerorum, by Robert Pemell. Pemell

was one of the earliest infant welfare authorities and had previously written a book, entitled "Help the Poor."

Another and very important contribution during the Protectorate was De Rachidite. This volume is one of the glories of English medicine, a wonderful piece of clinical description to which little or nothing has been added since, except by means of investigations which were not at the disposal of investigators of Glisson's time.

Another pediatric treasure is by that neglected genius, John Mayow. It is also on rickets and consists of an account of Glisson's work shorn of all the unnecessary philosophic discussion. Mayow was one of the most remarkable of the English men of science and discovered oxygen a hundred years before Lavoisier discovered it, except that he did not call it by that name.

Franciscus Sylvius, one of the picturesque old teachers of Amsterdam and Leydon, was one of the early pediatrists and in addition to his other works as anatomist, physiologist and physician he wrote a little book on diseases of children which has been translated into English. This little book is full of interest, but seems to be almost unknown, the only author making much mention of it was Walter Harris, who borrowed much from him, but scolded him for having thought of things first.

Many of the pediatric contributions are to be found in the general writings, as witness those of Sydenham, whose descriptions of scarlet fever, measles and smallpox are quite remarkable.

From 1800 on the number of pediatric contributions increased enormously and up to 1850 Meissner has given a pretty fair resume of the more important articles. The number of books and original articles has grown steadily and gradually as pediatrics came to be a recognized specialty, separate journals were established in all civilized countries.

There is great need for a more or less complete bibliography of pediatric writings. The collecting of this will be a gigantic task and one to which a certain critical faculty should be brought, as a very large number of the contributions are not worth the paper they are printed on and a great many others are of very doubtful value. There remains, however, a very large number of monographs recording painstaking observations and experimental work which should be listed so that the future workers in the bibliography of pediatrics could have at their hand all the available contributions of value and find through lists all articles of a date later than that of the collected bibliography. This task will probably be accomplished by enlisting the librarians on one hand and the pediatric workers on the other, and by dividing the work up into subjects. The contributions could then be listed chronologically and a cross index of authors made.

The completion of such work would mean a grant from the Carnegie or some other such foundation and could be kept up either by the card system or by yearly additions. It has always

seemed to me that the larger medical libraries could easily keep a card index of the more important contributions in the various departments by turning such work over to committees of men interested in the different lines. A few hours a month spent in the library would serve to keep the index up to date and at the same time be of great value to the men who participated in the work in that it would keep them well informed as to what was going on. The older articles could be deleted in favor of the newer and the discards kept in separate drawers to be consulted in case of need.

This is a subject which should be discussed by the Medical Library Association and I am sure that a great many suggestions of value would thus be elicited.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

BOSTON, JUNE 6 TO 8, 1921.

As the place of the 24th Annual Meeting of the Association was decided last summer, we have done everything possible to give it publicity, so that all our members may make arrangements to be present if possible.

The Association has met in Boston before, but some years ago, and we know it to hold wonderful opportunities as a meeting place and no one can afford to miss it. As the hotels will be overcrowded because of the American Medical Association meeting, it will be necessary to engage rooms in advance, and this should be done at once. We would also urge that all our members arrange to arrive on Sunday, so that everyone will be in attendance when the session opens Monday morning.

We have given below a tentative program showing the libraries to be visited. The full program will be mailed you in ample time before the meeting, but we hope this advance notice will impress on you the importance of making your arrangements at once to attend, and secure accommodations.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM.

Monday, June 6, 1921.

10 A. M. Boston Medical Library.
Business meeting and inspection of library.
3 P. M. Visit Harvard Medical School Library.
8 P. M. General meeting. Boston Medical Library.
President's Address, Dr. Farlow.
Collection of medals, Dr. Storer.

Tuesday, June 7, 1921.

A. M. Boston Public Library.
3 P. M. Widener Library, Cambridge.
8 P. M. Treadwell Library.

Wednesday, June 8, 1921.

A. M. Boston Athenaeum Library.
Sight seeing tour.

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MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EDITED BY
JOHN RUHRÄH, M. D. MISS M. C. NOYES

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THE OSLER COLLECTION.

McGill University is to become a centre of interest to our members because it will house the books which were so lovingly collected by Sir William Osler.

The Library is unquestionably one of, if not the finest, collection of medical books extant, being particularly rich in the rare works of the earlier masters. It consists of over 7,800 volumes, many of which, however, contain a number of separate works, and the card index numbers over 8,250. The catalogue, which is now being completed at Oxford by an assistant from the Bodleian Library, includes an introduction and a memorandum on how to use the Library. This work will not be completed until the end of the present year, and the books will reach McGill next year. The ashes of the late Sir William are to accompany and rest with the Library.

The Library is divided into these groups of works:

I. MANUSCRIPTS:

II. INCUNABULA:

III. BIBLIOTHECA PRIMA: Sir William's idea was to have in a comparatively small number of works the essential literature grouped about the men of the first rank arranged in chronological order. They illustrate the beginnings of medicine (Lucretius, Anthropology, Primitive Medicine; Medicine in Babylonia, Egypt, Persia, China, India, etc.) The Greeks, the Pre-Socratics. Then the work of the great Discoverers in Medicine up to the 19th century, as:—Plato, Hippocrates, Aristotle, Theophrastus, Celsus, Plinius, Galen, the Byzantines and Arabians; medieval (Roger Bacon and Leonardo da Vinci); the XVIth century (Copernicus, Paracelsus, etc.); XVIIth century (Boerhaave, Boyle, Malpighi, Newton, Sydenham, etc.); XVIIIth century (Hunter, Jenner, Dalton, etc.); the XIXth century (Claude Bernard, Davy, Helmholtz, Koch, Pasteur, Virchow, etc., etc.). And lastly the special Harvey Collection of works.

IV. BIBLIOTHECA SECUNDA: books grouped into alphabetical sections, such as those referring to Anatomy, Antiseptics, Blood-letting, Christian Science, Dental Surgery, Epidemics, Famine, Gout, Inoculation, Midwifery, Ophthalmology, Plague, Surgery, Tuberculosis, Vivisection; altogether some 90 subjects.

V. BIBLIOTHECA LITERARIA: comprising Literary works by medical writers and Medicine and Doctors in fiction.

VI. BIBLIOTHECA BIOGRAPHICA: medical Biography, arranged alphabetically under the subject of the biographer.

VII. BIBLIOTHECA BIBLIOGRAPHICA: Medical and general Bibliography.

VIII. BIBLOTHECA HISTORICA: the history of Medicine and Medical Institutions.

An additional interest of many of these books apart from their rarety and intrinsic worth lies in the fact that so many of them are annotated by Sir William in his own handwriting.

The temporary committee, appointed by the McGill Faculty of Medicine consists of the Principal (Sir Arthur Currie, Chairman), the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine (Dr. H. S. Birkett) and a Professor of Medicine (Dr. Finley)—all three of whom, as you will see from the "Memoranda," are to be Curators of the Library upon arrival.

The terms of the will as drawn up by Sir William Osler, on March 24, 1919, as they refer to the Library, are given below:

I. **Curators:—**

(a) The Dean of the Medical Faculty (Chairman ex-officio).
(b) The Principal of the University.
(c) A member of the Osler family selected by the other Trustees.
(d) The Professor of Medicine.
(e) The Chairman of the Library Committee of the College of Physicians, Philadelphia.
(f) The Chairman of the Library Committee of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of the State of Maryland.
(g) The Librarian of the Surgeon-General's Library.

(The traveling expenses of the Trustees from a distance to be paid from the fund.)

Except for special purposes it should not be necessary to hold more than two Meetings a year.
Three members to constitute a quorum.

II. The **Library** to serve, as far as possible, two functions—the education of students in the History and Methods of Science and of Medicine, and to promote research into these subjects.

III. The **Librarian**

(a) He shall be selected by the Curators and appointed by the Governors of the University.
(b) He shall be a member of the Medical Faculty and ex-officio Professor of the History of Science (and of Medicine)—either of which title he may use.
(c) He shall have:—i. Full charge of the collection, and ii. appoint assistants; iii. purchase books; iv. direct the reading of ordinary students and help special students with researches: v. lecture when he feels it will be useful, but there should be no compulsion to give set Courses. Private advice and instruction in the Library should be his chief work.

(d) The Librarian should be a scholar who has given evidence of interest in Bibliography and the History of Science.

IV. As I wish the position to be comfortable berth for a good scholar, the salary should first be not less than three-fourths (¾) of the total income. Later, as the income increases, it should be one-half (½).

V. As I do not wish to embarrass the University in any way, the income shall at first be used:—i. To pay expenses of transport of the books, arranging space, book cases, etc., and ii. To help pay for the printing (and preparation) of a Catalogue, if that has not been already done before my death.

VI. The Librarian shall submit an annual statement to the Trustees and the University.

VII. Books are not to be lent or removed from the Library.

VIII. The Library will:—(a) Relieve the University and Departmental Libraries by purchasing the Journals on the History of Science and of Medicine, and the special books and monographs in these subjects, and (b) the Librarian will fill all gaps in the works of men of the first order in the various sections.

IX. The Library is for the use of the members of the Medical profession, including, of course, medical students, and I particularly wish my colleagues of Laval and my French-Canadian brothers to take advantage of the many important works of the old Masters of their native land, in the collection of which I have had them specially in mind.

X. Special students, from outside Montreal, are to be given every possible facility in the Library. (A memorandum on how to use the Library will be found at the end of the Introduction to the Catalogue).

XI. Knowing how with time conditions change, the Curators are at liberty to make alterations in these regulations, respecting, as far as possible, my wishes as herein expressed.

March 24, 1919.

MEDICAL HISTORICAL EXHIBIT

AT THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

In the room used for exhibits on the floor of the special libraries at the Boston Public Library, there will be an exhibit of early texts (Hippocrates to Sydenham) dealing with fevers and with specific infections. These will be arranged in chronological order. In addition to the texts, there will be considerable illustrative material touching on hospitalization and treatment, the use of baths, venesection, new remedies, pest banners, broadsides and medals, also Saint Roch and Saint Sebastian, and various aspects of the plagues and syphilis dealt with in the graphic arts. General texts illustrating the Greek, Byzantine, Mohammedan and mediaeval practice in fevers will occupy half of the space allotted. The other half will contain tracts on the plague and syphilis, original descriptions, new diseases and primary treatises on the doctrine of contagium vivum. A descriptive catalogue will be ready for distribution at the time of the annual session.